

Remarks

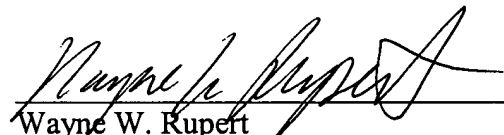
The Office action dated January 28, 2004, stated “[c]laims 49 and 55 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.” (Page 7.) Applicant has accordingly amended these claims into independent form under 37 C.F.R. § 41.33(b)(2) (permitting dependent claims to be rewritten in independent form during an appeal). Applicant respectfully requests notice of entry of this Amendment.

Applicant also notes that a decision by the Board in related Appeal No. 2003-1162 was mailed on September 23, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

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